

Merit Systems Protection Board

§ 1206.7

§ 1206.2 Policy.

The Board will provide the public with the fullest practicable information regarding its decision-making processes, while protecting individuals' rights and the Board's ability to carry out its responsibilities. Meetings at which the Board members jointly conduct or dispose of official business are presumptively open to the public. The Board will close those meetings in whole or in part only in accordance with the exemptions provided under 5 U.S.C. 552b(c), and only when doing so is in the public interest.

§ 1206.3 Definitions.

The following definitions apply to this part:

(a) *Meeting* means deliberations of at least two Board members that determine or result in the joint conduct of official Board business.

(b) *Member* means one of the members of the Merit Systems Protection Board.

Subpart B—Procedures

§ 1206.4 Notice of meeting.

(a) Notice of a Board meeting will be published in the FEDERAL REGISTER at least one week before the meeting. Each notice will include the following information:

- (1) The time of the meeting;
- (2) The place where the meeting will be held;
- (3) The subject and agenda of the meeting;
- (4) Whether the meeting is to be open to the public or closed; and
- (5) The name and telephone number of a Board official responsible for receiving inquiries regarding the meeting.

(b) The Board, by majority vote, may provide less than one week's notice. When it does so, however, it will provide notice of the meeting at the earliest practicable time.

§ 1206.5 Change in meeting plans after notice.

(a) After notice of a meeting has been published, the Board may change the time or place of the meeting only if it announces the change publicly at the earliest practicable time.

(b) After notice of a meeting has been published, the Board may not change either the subject matter of the meeting or the decision that the meeting will be open to the public or closed unless both of the following conditions are met:

(1) By majority, recorded vote, the Board members determine that Board business requires the change and that no earlier announcement of the change was possible; and

(2) Notice of the change, and of the individual Board members' vote, is published in the FEDERAL REGISTER at the earliest practicable time.

§ 1206.6 Decision to close meeting.

(a) *Basis*. The Board, by majority vote, may decide to close a meeting in accordance with the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(1) to 552b(c)(10) when closing the meeting is in the public interest.

(b) *General Counsel certification*. For every meeting that is closed to the public in whole or in part, the General Counsel will certify that closing the meeting is proper, and will state the basis for that opinion.

(c) *Vote*. Within one day after voting to close a meeting, the Board will make publicly available a record reflecting the vote of each member. In addition, within one day after any vote to close a portion or portions of a meeting to the public, the Board will make publicly available a full written explanation of its decision to close the meeting, together with a list naming all persons expected to attend the meeting and identifying their affiliation, unless that disclosure would reveal the information that the meeting was closed to protect.

§ 1206.7 Record of meetings.

(a) *Closed Meeting*. When the Board has decided to close a meeting in whole or in part, it will maintain the following record:

- (1) A transcript or recording of the proceeding;
- (2) A copy of the General Counsel's certification under § 1206.6(b) of this part;
- (3) A statement from the presiding official specifying the time and place of